



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

TO: Chairman Pringle and Member Diridon

FROM: Carrie Pourvahidi, Deputy Director

DATE: January 21, 2010

RE: Agenda Item 2 – Update on Executive Director Search

Discussion

Since the board at its January meeting indicated a desire to have names of some candidates presented to the board as early as the February meeting, staff made efforts to determine how long it would take to enter into a contract with a candidate search firm. The quickest alternative was to enter into an agreement with CPS Human Resource Services. CPS is a joint powers agency, made up of several state and local public agencies. As such, it was possible to enter into an agreement with CPS much sooner than would have been possible with a private sector entity. In addition, CPS' cost proposal (\$24,500) was lower than the amount that would require Department of General Services review and approval. Consequently, staff took the initiative to enter into an agreement with CPS Human Services. Given the time that would otherwise have been required to obtain approval to enter into a sole source agreement and to obtain approval of any agreement itself that included a higher contract price, it would have been impossible to have a search firm in place any sooner than the March meeting (at best), let alone meet the time schedule contemplated by the board at the January meeting.

Attached is CPS' scope of work and schedule for your reference. Please note that the deliverable of the draft brochure will be submitted for review by the committee on January 27, so the task schedule, for Task 3, might be delayed for a day or so.